Overseas power plants of NTPC

1505. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the NTPC proposes to set up power plants in various countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the new power plants are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. NTPC proposes to set up power plants in Sri Lanka and Nigeria.

(i) **Sri Lanka**: NTPC had signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) and Ceylon Electricity Board (CEB), on 29.12.2006, for setting up a 500 MW coal fired power project in Trincomalee region in Sri Lanka through a Joint Venture Company of NTPC and CEB.

Site has been identified for setting up of the plant by NTPC & CEB. Feasibility studies are being taken up. Discussions are going on with CEB/GoSL for finalization of Joint Venture Agreement (JVA), Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) and other definitive agreements. Subject to timely signing of Agreements, necessary clearances & approvals, the project is envisaged for commissioning in 2012.

(ii) **Nigeria**: An MOU was signed between NTPC Limited and Ministry of Energy, Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) on 22nd May 2007 for energy cooperation already to which FGN has agreed to provide, subject to availability, three (3) million tonnes per annum of LNG at a reasonable price for a period of 25 years from its existing / future LNG terminals to NTPC for use in NTPC's plants in India and upon successful tie-up of LNG supply, NTPC is to build, own and operate a 700 MW coal based and a 700 MW gas based power plants in Nigeria. Pre-feasibility Report for the proposed 500 MW coal based and 700 MW gas power plants in Nigeria had been submitted to FGN on 11.06.2008. Activities for setting up of Power Plant will be taken up only after FGN firmly commits supply of LNG to NTPC.

Rural electrification

1506. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total budget outlay for the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) and how many villages of the country have already been electrified along with the number of beneficiaries;

(b) the total amount sanctioned for RGGVY in Orissa and by when the work would be completed; and

(c) whether State Government has already paid its share for RGGVY?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Government of India has accorded approval for capital subsidy of Rs.28,000 crore to begin with for execution of Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) during 11th Plan in addition to Rs.5000 crore approved for execution of RGGVY during 10th Plan period. The implementing agencies

have reported that Rural Electrification works in 53048 un-electrified villages and 66808 already electrified villages have been carried out under RGGVY as on 01.12.2008. Similarly, implementing agencies have also reported that 4818897 rural household connections have been released, of which 4075775 are BPL connections under RGGVY as on 1.12.2008.

(b) An amount of Rs.3575.19 crore have been sanctioned under RGGVY for implementation of 31 projects in Orissa State. RGGVY works sanctioned under these projects are to be completed within 18 months, from the date of award of projects.

(c) RGGVY provides 90% of the project cost as capital subsidy whereas the balance 10% is to be provided as loan by REC. As such State Government is not required to pay any amount for implementation of RGGVY projects in the State.

Status of UMPPs

1507. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has contemplated setting up of Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPPs);

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of UMPPs finalized, volume and pattern of projected investment and financial closure achieved;

(c) the details of UMPPs proposed to be taken up during the current Five Year Plan; and

(d) the details of power generation and distribution cost estimated for the UMPPs finalized so far, and their tariff rates taken into consideration in the respective project proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes Sir, the Ministry of Power had launched an initiative for the development of coal based Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPPs), each of about 4000 MW capacity. These projects are being developed on a Build, Own and Operate basis, and the project developer is selected through a tariff based competitive bidding process by project specific shell companies formed as wholly owned subsidiaries of Power Finance Corporation, the identified nodal agency for this initiative.

(b) and (c) The Central Electricity Authority (CEA) in consultation with the States had originally identified nine locations for setting up of UMPPs, out of which 4 are pithead sites in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Orissa and Chhattisgarh and remaining 5 are at coastal locations in the States of Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. In addition to the above, some of the States have also requested for additional UMPPs.

Out of the above, three UMPPs namely Sasan in Madhya Pradesh, Mundra in Gujarat and Krishnapatnam in Andhra Pradesh have already been awarded and transferred to the developers selected through tariff based competitive bidding. Full benefits of these projects will accrue in the 12th Plan. The bidding process in respect of Tillaiya UMPP in Jharkhand is in progress. The development of other projects is contingent upon the various clearances from the respective host State Governments.

Each UMPP of 4000 MW capacity would require an investment of the order of approximately Rs. 16,000 crores. The responsibility of achieving financial closure and tying up of the funds for meeting